

## **REMARKS**

### **The Status of the Claims.**

Claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 17 are currently allowed. Claims 11 and 18 to 28 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 9 and 15 are amended herein. These amendments introduce no new matter and support is replete throughout the specification. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

With respect to the "Methanococcus" amendments, this aspect corrects the examiner's amendment to more properly indicate the genus of organism discussed throughout the original specification and original claims. With regard to the "a", this amendment merely adjusts the claims to provide more proper grammar.

Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application by way of the above Amendment. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

## **CONCLUSION**

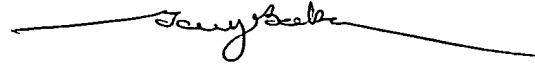
Applicants appreciate that the Office has found the claims allowable. The amendments above merely reiterate the allowed subject matter while correcting grammar and the scientific name of an identified organism. Applicants request the amendments above be entered on or before the date of Issuance for the present application.

If the claims are deemed not to be in condition for allowance after consideration of these amendments, a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3510 to schedule an interview.

Appl. No. 10530,421  
Amendment Dated July 17, 2008  
Reply to Notice of Allowability of May 9, 2008

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary Baker", is written over a horizontal line.

Gary Baker  
Reg. No: 41,595

Attachments:

- 1) A transmittal sheet; and,
- 2) A receipt indication postcard.